

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/408,437

Examiner

ARMANDO RODRIGUEZ

Applicant(s)

TAKAHASHI, TAKASHI

Art Unit

2828

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on June 3, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-6 and 13-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 September 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

Claims 2-6,13-22 are pending.

Claims 1,7-12 have been canceled.

The objection to claims 5 and 6 have been withdrawn based on applicant's amendment filed on June 3, 2004.

The 35 USC 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 5 and 6 have been withdrawn based on applicant's amendment filed on June 3, 2004.

The 35 USC 102 and 103 rejections have been withdrawn based on applicant's amendment filed on June 3, 2004.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 2-6,13-22 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claims 2,4 and 19,

After reviewing applicant's amendment, arguments and conducting an updated search none of the cited prior arts alone or in combination discloses the claimed semiconductor laser having the structural limitations of independent claims 2,4 and 19, in particular the saturable absorbing layer having the combination of nitrogen (N) with another group V element as AS or P, which will provide bandgap control and stabilization of the self-pulsation.

Regarding claims 13 and 20,

After reviewing applicant's amendment, arguments and conducting an updated search none of the cited prior arts alone or in combination discloses the claimed semiconductor laser having the structural limitations of independent claims 13 and 20, in particular the saturable absorbing layer having the combination of nitrogen (N) with another group V element, which will provide bandgap control and stabilization of the self-pulsation.

While conducting an updated search the reference to Ono et al was found, which discloses a saturable absorbing layer having another group V element as As,P and Sb, as described in the abstract. The reference to Ono et al is not considered prior art due to its filing date of November 9, 2001 because the present application has a filing date of September 29, 1999.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ARMANDO RODRIGUEZ whose telephone number is 571-272-1952. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

Art Unit: 2828

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MINSUN HARVEY can be reached on 571-272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
ARMANDO RODRIGUEZ  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2828

  
MINSUN HARVEY  
Supervisor  
Art Unit 2828

AR/MH